

## SHELLS FAIL TO EXPLODE

The admiral says that the war did not disclose what the results might be of a serious battle between armor clads and coast forts. He says the Americans in these instances have never gone close enough to make it possible to note the results on either side. They should not be blamed for this, if they could obtain their objects without incurring greater risk it would be a mistake to take such risks, and they certainly did attain their object. The great injuries, however, which the Americans claim to have inflicted at the present time have subsequently proved to be exaggerations and delusions. The Americans' better guns than the Spaniards, and which they had found that they could not reach the American ships they stopped firing, whereupon it was thought they had silenced the batteries. After all the bombardments of Santiago there was but

In conclusion, the admiral says that while vessels built for special purposes are expensive and troublesome in time of peace, yet they are useful and furnish relief in actual war, and provision should be made to have vessels set apart which can be easily equipped and placed at the disposal of the navy.

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